



SENATE BILL 374: COVID-19/20-21 School Calendar Start.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	July 7, 2020
Introduced by:	Sens. Wells, Brown	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw
Analysis of:	PCS to Fifth Edition S374-CSTC-72		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The PCS for SB 374 would remove the prior contents of the bill and replace it with an authorization to allow local boards of education, with State Board of Education approval, to use remote learning in the opening week of the school calendar, if needed for student health and safety due to COVID-19.*

CURRENT LAW: S.L. 2020-3, as amended by S.L. 2020-49, sets the requirements for the school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. This legislation includes the following requirements:

- All public school units must develop a plan for how remote instruction can be delivered to students.
- All public school units must schedule the equivalent of five days of remote instruction (required remote instruction) for the 2020-2021 school year.
- All public school units may schedule additional remote instruction beyond the five required remote instruction days if the governing board determines it is needed to ensure student health and safety.
- Local school administrative units (LEAs) have additional requirements for the 2020-2021 instructional calendar:
 - Schools must open on August 17, 2020 and close no later than June 11, 2021.
 - Remote instruction days cannot be scheduled before August 24, 2020.
 - The five required remote instruction days can be used as both teacher workdays and instructional days with lessons prepared in advance.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for SB 374 would allow local boards of education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, to use remote instruction in the first five instructional days of the school calendar if, due to COVID-19, remote instruction is needed to ensure student health and safety.

EFFECTIVE DATE: SB 374 would become effective when it becomes law.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

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